

Sawston Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

summarised by

Mike Petty

Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the
Cambridgeshire Weekly News, its sister title.

They are supplemented by some articles published in the
Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

Most were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at
bit.ly/CambsCollection

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.
I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in
touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library
where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the
1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – www.mikepetty.org.uk for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2016

1897 03 25

Sawston health, p2

1897 04 29

At Cambridge County Court Alfred Whitmee, circus proprietor said he visited Shelford with his circus in the autumn of 1896. On the Monday it was a rough day and he could not get the tent up. The month of October was an unfortunate one for him. He owed 30s.(shillings) at Histon and about 7s at Trumpington. He had arranged to start for Sawston but was told he could not take anything away until £2.0.6 was paid for lodging his horses.

1898 07 15

Notices were posted in Sawston calling a meeting of the cyclists for the object of forming a bicycle club, but we understand that on the leading spirit of the affair presenting himself at the appointed time and place, only a number of empty chairs and forms met the gaze of him and his friend, and they shortly left the room in disgust at the indifference shown by the Sawston cyclists.

1898 08 17

Sawston schoolboy, p4

1899 03 30c

Sawston gave its answer with no uncertain force to those who had forced a contest on the village for the election of members of the School Board. About 8.30 o'clock a crowd began to congregate in front of the board school to wait for the declaration and then it leaked out that there was a difference of one vote between the two Progressives at the bottom of the poll. The result came as a great surprise to the progressive party, who had made no secret of the fact that they considered defeat impossible on their canvas.

1899 07 15

Sawston boy's death, p2

1899 07 17

Sawston Friendly Society parade, p3

1901 07 15

Sawston church parade, p15

1901 07 23

The villages of Linton and Balsham were en fete on the occasion of the homecoming of the local members of the Suffolk Imperial Yeomanry. Crowds assembled at Linton station some time before the train was due, awaiting the arrival of the battle-stained warriors. The Sawston Brass Band (looking remarkably smart in their new uniform) struck up as soon as the soldiers made their appearance. A procession of carriages, horsemen and lady cyclists, their machines trimmed with flowers accompanied the parade that conveyed the men to Balsham.

1902

The people of Sawston did their best for Addenbrooke's Hospital and exceeded the contributions given on the previous Friendly Societies' parade by several shillings. Members of the "Florence Nightingale" and "Star of Friendship" courts, headed by the Sawston Brass Band, marched to the Congregational Church which was completely filled for the service.

1902 08 25

A Sawston labourer was summoned that he being the occupier of a cottage overcrowded so as to be injurious to the health of the inmates did neglect to abate the nuisance. The building contained two

rooms, one of the bedrooms being downstairs, and also a lean-to kitchen. There were eight persons living in the house, the defendant and his wife, the daughter and her husband, and their four children whose ages ranged from six to 12 years. The magistrates ordered that he should quit the place in fourteen days.

1902 08 28

Sawston houses, p2 & p3 *

1902 11 06

Sawston 'Flower Pot', p3

1903 02 09

Sawston fire, p3

1903 02 13

The Rev Charles Crump, of Sawston, was summoned for riding a bicycle on the footpath. The police superintendent held up his hand and the defendant rode on the road saying, "You have fairly caught me". The road was in an abominable condition; had he been a young lady not a word would have been said, but he supposed the policeman was glad to catch a parson. He was fined 6d. An undergraduate of Caius College was summoned for wheeling a bicycle on the footpath in Round Church Street. He said perambulators and mail carts were being wheeled along the path and he was not causing any danger or annoyance. He was fined 10s.

1903 04 29

The University Arms Property, Sawston, consisting of the old licensed beerhouse, the University Arms, 32 cottages and the cricket ground were offered for sale by auction. The pub sold for £775, one block of four cottages facing the main road was sold at £450 and four in Occupation Road realised £250. The cricket ground was purchased by Mr Hudson for £280. The remaining 20 cottages were withdrawn. The fully licensed inn, The King's Head, and the old beerhouse now named the Golden Fleece in Bridge Street were offered and withdrawn as were the Cock and the Bell at Feltwell and The Ferry Boat at Hockwold-cum-Wilton. Six freehold cottages at Fulbourn were sold to Mr Jacobs for £250

1903 05 08

A raid on motor cars was made on the Royston Road. P.S. Gilbey, stationed at Sawston, said he and P.C. Davies measured a mile on the road, compared watches and set them exactly at the same time. At 3.49 a car passed and went towards Royston. He saw P.C. Davies come out to stop the car from beside a straw stack. The time was just under three minutes. Both policemen were in plain clothes; if they had been in uniform people would not go at such an excessive speed. The magistrates were not without sympathy for the motorist but there was proof that the limit of 12 miles per hour had been exceeded. They imposed the smallest possible fine of 5s.

1903 06 17

For the past two days thousands of acres around Sawston and Whittlesford have been flooded to the depth of six feet; a considerable stretch of the main railway line has been under water and trains have to very carefully plough through it. A gang of platelayers were at work to combat with anything that might occur and slag, granite and other ballast was unloaded. Early in the afternoon the water sank considerably and the rails were for the most part visible. A new danger presented itself for as the water subsided the ballast began to disappear and, the line becoming unsafe, all traffic was stopped

1905 06 30

A four-wheel baker's van was found in Mr Duke's meadow at Littlebury. It had a covering reading 'Pure Yeast Company, London' and contained a set of harness, a pair of reins, two baker's baskets and five loaves of bread. The Metropolitan police ascertained that it had been stolen on 22nd June and

gave a description of the horse which was found in a field near Sawston in a weak condition. The thief has not been traced 05 06 30

1906 07 07

The Queen's Arms beerhouse at Soham sold 30 barrels of beer a year. It was an old house, very low and in bad repair. There was little trade – during one afternoon the landlord drew one pint of beer and drank two himself. Soham was an increasing town, 200 new houses having been built during the last ten years but there were 34 licensed houses, one to every 124 persons. One was The Old Brewery whose trade was done among the low class labourers in the evenings – Sunday especially. Also: Cambridge - The Beehive, Golden Cross, Sawston – Flower Pot – all closed 06 07 07a & b

1906 10 12

The lease of Pampisford Council School expires at Christmas and the new rent would be £30. Substantial economy would be effected by closing it and sending the children to Sawston instead. It was precious hard lines in a small village that the children should have to go one-and-a-half miles to school. The parents were very much opposed but it was another of those unpopular things they had to do. 06 10 12b

1906 11 16

The Compensation Authority considered claims for premises closed under the Licensing Act. They included a beerhouse at North Brook End, Steeple Morden, The Plough at Comberton, the Red Cow, Landbeach and Carrier's Cart at Lt Shelford. Potton Brewery said they would lose £275 if the licence of a beerhouse at Heath Road, Litlington was taken away but accepted £240 as compensation. However Benskin's Watford Brewery refused £251 for the Sun in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. also Stapleford Dolphin, Waterbeach Haunch of Mutton & Plough & Horses, Sawston – Flower Pot, Willingham – King William IV, Bottisham Plough, Soham Queen's Arms and Old Brewery 06 11 16a & b

1906 11 17

Licensing compensation – Sawston Flower Pot, Cambridge: Newmarket Road Sun, Honey Hill Beehive; Willingham King William IV – 06 11 17 a & b & c

1906 12 28

George Harradine, cabman of Hilton was summoned for not carrying a lamp attached to his cart. Sergeant Gilbey said he was in Sawston High Street and saw a large furniture van with three horses and no light. The driver said he had been burning one earlier, but the lamp was quite cold and there was no candle in it. He was fined 10s. 06 12 28

1908 02 07

Linton magistrates heard of a disorder at Chequers, Shudy Camps where some furniture had been removed from the pub and carted away next day. The landlord, who was a single man, had introduced as his housekeeper an unsuitable young single women. This gave rise to some family difference. There had been frequent quarrels between the landlord and landlady at the Cross Keys, Sawston and the landlord of the Bell at Balsham had not prevented excessive drinking. 08 02 07g

1908 02 07

The Ram beerhouse, Balsham, had existed previous to 1869, justices heard. There was a taproom, bar, kitchen, living-room and grocer's shop as well as four bedrooms. The back staircase and the stable roof was in bad repair. The tenant did a trade of about a dozen barrels of beer and six dozen bottled ale and stout a week. The population was 780 and there were five other fully-licensed pubs and three beer houses including the Five Ales. The licence was temporarily renewed. also Cherry Tree, Sawston Chequers, Shudy Camps, Bell at Balsham, George & Dragon, Castle Camps, White Hart, Linton. 08 02 07

1908 05 29

Alfred Wright, a driver for Crampton's mineral water manufacturers of Sawston was harnessing two horses in the Crown yard, Cambridge, when one took fright. It dashed into Hills Road and galloped towards the town. As it neared Hyde Park Corner it ran full tilt into a lamp-post and sustained injuries of such a shocking character that death was almost instantaneous. The lamp standard was completely broken off at the base and the gas piping bent right across the path. CWN 08 05 29 p3

1908 06 05

Sawston Co-operative Society opened its new model bakery with the latest machinery for the making of bread and confectionery. The new plant is needed to meet the increased demand, which has doubled in 20 years. It supplies nine villages and sends out 3,000 quartern loaves a week. Sawston Brass Bands played selections before the new premises were thrown open to inspection. CWN 08 06 05

1909 04 23

Sawston carter bankruptcy – 09 04 23

1909 12 03

The Ortona Motor Bus Company, whose enterprise has proved such a boon in Cambridge and Chesterton, intend to commence a service to Sawston via Trumpington, Shelford and Stapleford. A fine new Maudsley bus has been obtained which will do the full journey in 50 minutes. Parcels as well as passengers will be carried. CWN 09 12 03

1910 02 04

Since the Ortona Bus Company was established in Cambridge they have done much towards linking up the station and the town with outlying suburbs. A few weeks ago they commenced a service of motor 'buses to Trumpington, Shelford and Sawston and have now inaugurated another to Histon and Cottenham which has been well patronised by passengers 10 02 04m

1910 03 18

The County Council considered a highly-important report for bringing the main roads up-to-date to meet the demands of motor and other traffic. A journey on the Cambridge to Huntingdon Road involves jolting over innumerable and unavoidable patches of loose sharp stones and lingers in the memory of the wayfarer long after. This road should not cause phenomenal expense to bring it into a greatly improved state of repair. There is a busy, heavily-trafficked length of road at Sawston much used by motor buses and although the Cambridge to Haverhill Road does not carry heavy through traffic it needs to be made free from dust in summer and mud in winter. 10 03 18 & a

1910 12 02

John Crampton came to Sawston nearly 50 years ago where has developed the printing, publishing and mineral water business of Messrs Crampton and Son Ltd. A branch of the mineral water business has also been established at Newmarket. He was one of the promoters of the Eastern Counties Leather and Parchment Company as well as a councillor, Visitor of Fulbourn Asylum and member of the Old Age Pensions Committee. His death has caused a blank in the village life and on every hand expressions of sorrow testify to the regard in which he was held 10 12 02l

1910 12 02

Sawston Rat Extermination Association urged the District Council to take measures for the destruction of rats. The Medical Officer said their fleas caused plague and recommended certain poisons should be used. Dead rats should be buried two feet under the ground or, better still, cremated. The council would have to bear expenses if they employed people to exterminate them and they asked farmers and gamekeepers to co-operate in their destruction. 10 12 02l

1911 01 04

On 'The Squire's annual tea party' the children of the Sawston Girls' Boy' and Infants' schools, numbering about 270, were given an half-day's holiday. This enabled the caterers to have one of the large schools cleared of its desks and replaced by three long rows of tables. At the Infant's School the little tots sat at their dual desks, their eyes sparkling as they beheld a huge Christmas tree laden will dolls, picture books and a variety of toys. Then they were entertained to a sumptuous tea, followed by an evening's entertainment. Afterward three cheers were given to Mr & Mrs Huddleston for their kindness. 11 01 14ggg

1911 02 10

Cornwall County Council asked Cambridgeshire to back an approach to the Chancellor of the Exchequer calling for all mechanically propelled vehicles to pay an annual licence which should be used for the maintenance of the roads. At presence a great injustice is inflicted on local ratepayers by the use of these vehicles, the owners of which only pay a registration fee of £1 for all time. But they decided to take no action. An application from Sawston parish council for a ten miles an hour speed limit in the village was also turned down. 11 02 10c

1911 03 03

The Cross Keys beer house stood on the main street at Sawston opposite the Morning Star and the Woolpack, both of which had more accommodation and did better trade. It consisted of a tap-room, small bar, sitting room, five bedrooms, a little back yard and stabling. Its trade was just over a barrel a week. There were 13 licensed houses in the village of 1,699 people and this one was not required. But others were worse: the Chequers was a little tumbled-down cottage. The magistrates renewed the license. 11 03 03k

1911 11 10

A motor car drove into Sawston with several undergraduates. They visited the Stores and bought women's hats then commenced their fun by knocking people's hats off in the street and replacing them with those they had bought. The lads next went to the Queen's Head where they compelled the landlord to sit down while they drew the beer. They took pictures from the wall and placed them in the car – but the chauffeur took them back - then quite upset a cinematograph show, one hanging by his toes from a crossbar in the tent. It was a relief to the villagers when the motor left for Cambridge. 11 11 10e

1912 03 29

Football sweepstake at Sawston – 12 03 29h

1913 02 14

Linton licensing – list licensed houses in each parish, Sawston Chestnut beerhouse applies licence

1913 05 02

East Cambs bye-election, meetings Burwell, Whittlesford, Ely, Wicken, Soham. Ely, Sawston, Cherry Hinton

1913 05 09

Suffrage meeting broken up at Soham, Sawston, Fulbourn

1913 05 11

British Archaeological Congress meets, visit Sawston Hall

1913 07 18

Flower shows, Chesterton, Sawston, Duxford, Swaffhams, Melbourn & Meldreth, West Wrating,

1913 08 08

Sawston church parade

1913 12 12

Sawston butcher bad meat

1914 01 09

Sawston miniature rifle club concert – 14 01 09f

1914 01 16

Mr. Hamer Towgood. During the week, agriculture has sustained a severe loss by the death of Mr. Hamer Twogood of Sanfoins. Little Shelford, and the tidings of the demise of this prominent breeder of shire horses will be received with general regret in the agricultural counties of England. A son of Mr. Edward Towgood, of Paxton Hall, St. Neots, the deceased gentleman took up residence at Santfoins about 50 years ago. On the death of his father, he inherited a considerable interest in the Sawston paper mills, and for a long period he controlled this business. Agriculture, however, made a strong appeal to him, and he devoted; much of his time to the study of shire horses, and to the breeding of first-class animals. As judge, prize donor or exhibitor, Mr. Hamer Towgood was known to agricultural societies throughout the country, and the Cambs. and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society, of which he was a Vice-President and a generous supporter, has lost a great friend by reason of his death. The deceased gentleman was one of the original members of the Cambridgeshire County Council, representing the Sawston electoral division until his resignation in 1900. He was 71.

1914 02 20

Sparrow Club. — The annual meeting of the Sawston. Whittlesford and Pampisford Sparrow Club was held at the Bull Hotel, Sawston, on Monday. Mr. Gingell was re-elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and Mr. D. L. Huddleston, J.P. President. The total number of sparrows killed during the last year amounted to 2,500. The prize of 10s, for farms over 200 acres was awarded to Mr. Allen for 291 sparrows. The prize of 7s. 6d. for farms of 100 acres was awarded to Mr. Arnell. The prize of 5s. was awarded to Mr. W. Auger, junior, for allotment holders for a total of 400 sparrows. Mr. F. Ward was appointed receiver for Sawston, Mr. Fordham for Pampisford and Mr. Sullen for Whittlesford.

1914 07 03

Marriage. — A large congregation assembled at Pampisford Church on Monday when the wedding of Mr. J. J. Bailey, of Sawston, and Miss Bass, of Pampisford was solemnised. Considerable local interest was taken in the marriage. For many years Mr. Bailey has been associated with local political and religious life, and his prowess in the cricket field is well-known- During the past ten years, Mr. Bailey has been secretary to the Babraham, Pampisford and Sawston Conservative Association. He has also been closely identified with the work of the Congregational Sunday School, of which he has been a secretary, and has captained the Sawston Cricket Club. He is also a manager of the local schools. Mr. John James Bailey is a son of the late Mr. John Bailey and Mrs. Bailey, and Miss Ethel Laura Kate Bass, of Pampisford, is a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bass of Victoria Park, Cambridge. There was a large attendance of members of the Babraham, Pampisford and Sawston Conservative Association at the White Lion. Sawston, when a presentation of a canteen of table silver and cutlery and a cheque was made to Mr. Bailey. At a special general meeting of the Sawston Church Institute Cricket Club, a silver mounted tray, suitably inscribed, was also presented to him. — 1914 07 03 CIPof

1914 07 17

Flower shows, Sawston, Coton, Shelford, Haslingfield

1914 08 07

Several young men from Fulbourn, including Reservists and Territorials left to serve their country. Others were seen making their way from Sawston to Whittlesford station, a great crowd assembled at Willingham station to see their men leave men leave. At Swaffham Prior James Fordham, a labourer,

was summoned for leaving his employer without notice. But he was a reservist who had been called up to serve his country and the charge was dropped.

1914 08 28

Patriotic Cambridge has furnished a squadron of Yeomanry and 129 recruits for Lord Kitchener's Second Army. Many firms are making provision for wives and families left behind, supplementing the men's army wages. The University Press has sent 61 men, the Gas Company 35, Eaden Lilley 18 and William Saint the builder 17. (The paper lists the names of the men). Several men have left Sawston and at Reach Jack Ridgell offered his services but was not accepted, he being just over the age lime of 42 years. But at Linton men were asked not to join up until the harvest has been gathered in. also Fulbourn, Histon, Fen Drayton,

1914 08 28

Serving with the Colours. — Several men have left the village (Sawston) this week to join the Army. Sawston has a lot of men serving in the Army and Navy and Territorials, several of whom are at the front. It is estimated that there are about 70 Sawston men serving with the colours. — 1914 08 28
CIPof

1914 09 04

A Query. — A correspondent writes,—"The question is being asked by many in Sawston. "What was the Rifle Club formed for? Was it for sport- only? "What are the members doing at this critical time¹"- 1914 09 04 CIPof

1914 09 11

Enlistment – Lolworth, Boxworth, Over, Bourn, Linton, Cottenham, Elsworth, Swavesey, Bottisham, Longstanton, Sawston, Comberton, Waterbeach

1914 09 11

Sawston Hall was attacked by some of the troops based in Cambridge. The crack of rifles was heard about midnight and patrols were seen crawling along by the roadside; cycles and foot passengers were challenged. One man was frightened out of his wits, fearing the Germans were upon him. At dawn the attackers bore down on the defenders' left but they held their positions stubbornly until a large body of cavalry plunged into their midst 'wiping them out'. Victory was declared in favour of the attackers who then took breakfast with Mr Huddleston at the Hall. Sawston Co-operative Society arranged the catering.

1914 09 18

Patriotic Action. — Several recruits have left Newton to join. Lord Kitchener's Army, and among them are five from Newton Hall Estate. Sir Charles Waldstein is making up the difference in the pay of his men, and is keeping open their places until they return. — Sawston has responded nobly to the country's call for recruits. Through the efforts of Mr. Huddle-stone, 20 young fellows left by one bus last week. The occasion was marked by a demonstration of goodwill by the inhabitants, and a hearty cheer was raised as the conveyance left Sawston. There are already 80 names on the Roll of Honour, which is placed in a conspicuous position in the centre of the village. Ex-Sgt.-Major S. Hillyard, of High Street, Linton, has enrolled 80 recruits in three weeks.

1914 09 23

Cambridge Men on Torpedoed; Ships. News of the disaster to three of the cruisers of the British Fleet was officially known on Tuesday. Cambridge men are stated to have been on each of the; three cruisers. H.M. ships Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy were each torpedoed by German submarines and sank. The local men known to have been on board are: H.M.S.; Aboukir: Midshipman C. A. G. Cooke, son of Dr. K. Cooke, Bridge Street, Cambridge. Mr. Cooke was among those saved. HMS Hogue: First Class P.O. Percy James Warrington, Union Road, Cambridge (reported to be safe and to have been landed at Harwich), Signalman John Toombs, East Road, Cambridge and Naval. Reservist

J. L. Claydon, 6, Benson Street, Cambridge; H.M.S, Cressy: Naval Reservist O. Hinson, 57, Garden Walk, Cambridge: Mr. Hinson, who is a married man with one child, has been employed at King's College as a gate porter for about six years. Midshipman Cooke said he was in the water for three quarters of an hour before being picked up by one of the Cressy's cutters. He was afterwards taken on a fishing trawler, later transferred to H.M.S. Legion and landed at Harwich. He is now home in Cambridge on a short leave. Mr. W. Maskell of Sawston, who had a son serving on the Aboukir, received a telegram from him on Wednesday morning to inform him he was among those saved.

1914 10 09

A soldier from the Gloucester Regiment, lying in Trinity College, writes "I am a wounded soldier who has lost his leg whilst fighting at the front. I had it taken off by Lieut.-Col. Deighton at Cambridge Hospital, which was a great relief to me and saved my life. I wish to thank all the visitors who came in to see us wounded soldiers and for the presents I have received. We get treated very well and the nurses and sisters are so kind and gentle. A choir comes to sing on two evenings. It is lovely and we enjoy it so much. I am proud to say that I lost my leg for King and country. Others including Sawston

1914 10 23

Belgian refugees Sawston, Histon, concert, Huntingdon, list Cambridge names & where billeted; p3 Caxton Infectious Diseases Hospital to be used

1914 10 30

Belgians – Waterbeach not help, Soham arrivals, Burwell, Bourn, Cottenham, Duxford, Gamlingay, Gt Eversden, Histon, Linton, Over, Sawston, Swavesey, Chatteris, Cheveley

1914 10 30

The dentist of the Stapleford & Sawston clinic said that at Stapleford, where the children were re-inspected annually, no teeth were found to be unsaveable. But at Shelford, where work had been interrupted for a year, some children had teeth so decayed as to be beyond saving. This emphasises the importance of annual inspections. Only one treatment was refused at Stapleford where there is no charge, but at Shelford, where payment is sought, treatment was refused for 25 out of 82 children for whom it was advised.

1914 11 06

Belgians – Littleport, Burwell, Chatteris, Duxford, Comberton, Sawston, Elsworth, Fen Drayton, Swavesey, Fordham, West Wickham, Wicken, Gamlingay, Willingham, Madingley, Isleham, Landbeach, Linton, Lode, Oakington,

1914 11 13

Belgian refugees – Carlton, Waterbeach, Bassingbourn, Sawston, Willingham, Horningsea, Elsworth, Fowlmere, Ickleton, Cheveley

1914 11 20

GER new railway – act to be sought; includes line crossing River Cam near Sawston, stopping up stream, Ely land

1915 08 06

Photos of fallen soldiers: G.D. Salmon, Wisbech; G.C. Coote, Foxton; Capt R.E. Sindall, Cambridge; A.J. Coote, Barrington; L. Tuck; L/C Ryder; B. Rolph; S. Trotman; A.D. McPherson; H.H. Bendall; E.C. Colchester, Shelford; R.N. Bendyshe, Barrington; Capt Tebbutt; Hodson; W.J. Blane; E. Freeman; B. Carter, Bourn; Dunnett; - 15 08 06a. A.E. Seagrott; E.H. Cawthrop; W.F. Taylor, Lt Shelford; W.Gee, Sawston; A. Davis, T. Kimmence; C.L. Wayman; E. Clarke, Bourn; H.C. Yorke, J.H. Caldecoat, Bourn; F.J. Gipp, Chesterton; N.W. Fielding; O.J. Goddard, Dewey; G. Pamplin, Fen

Ditton; J. Wallage; Phillips; C. Richmond, Fulbourn; W.E. Jones; J.J. Mayle; L.J. Naylor; S. Phillips; R.L. Player; C. Butler – 15 08 06b

1915 08 13

Photos of wounded soldiers: T. Hornsby, A.J. Ince; G. Stevens; P. Stubbings, Sawston; W. Maltby; G.W. Naylor; Northfield; P.G. Pope; R. O'Brien; A.R. Skeel; Pull; C. Cockerill, Sawston; T.E. Foreman, Fulbourn; W. Foreman, Fulbourn; Dobson; 15 08 13a S. Allen; A.R. Sewell; Medway; A.E. Taylor, Chesterton; H.W. Whitmore, Chesterton; J. Clark; R. Silk; S.T. Burr; F.W. Freeman, Sawston; A.S. Kirkup; W. Gladwell; Dean; Dant; Dodd; G. Osbourn, Fulbourn; H.B. Stevens; A. Plump, Fulbourn; S. Mott; R. Clifton; H.C. Clark; J.E. Orton; E. Tiplady; C. Dockerill, Sawston; F. Cracknell; A.A. Spillman; C. Walker; A.E. Whybrow; P. Coleman, Sawston 15 08 13b

1915 08 20

Men who have distinguished themselves on battlefield: W. Ralph, Bottisham; E.T. Saint; Daldry; O.W. Parkinson; C.E. Morley, Gt Shelford; S. Freestone, Sawston; L.A. Austin; F. Potter DCM; F.J. Gatward – 15 08 20b

1915 10 27

Casualties – photos: Flack, H.T. Tyrrell; F. Mansfield pow; Horace Reed, Sawston – 15 10 27da

1916 08 09

Pathos. — Considerable pathos attaches to the death of Pte. W. Brand, of Sawston (Suffolk Regt.). He was killed in action (in France) on July 7, and the bullet which ended his life perforated a photograph of his two children which he carried with him.

1916 11 29

Volunteers,—Major Howard, O.C. 2nd Battalion. Cambs, Volunteer Regiment, visited Sawston on Sunday to inspect the local volunteers. Detachments came over from Duxford, Whittlesford, and France, Hinxton and Ickleton while Mr. F. W. Green and Sergt. Instructor Gall brought a strong contingent from Shelford. The inspection took place in Sawston Hall grounds, the number on parade being 110. Following the inspection, the Major addressed the men, and said he was very pleased with the appearance, and with the way the various movements were being carried out

1916 12 06

Railway Tragedy, — An inquest was held at the White Lion, Sawston, last (Tuesday) evening touching the tragic death of Mr. James Ward, head of the firm of Messrs. J. Ward and Co. bakers, of Whittlesford. The body of the deceased gentleman was found at 12.20 p.m. on Monday on the side of the railway track near the Whittlesford footpath between Sawston and Whittlesford. It is surmised that the rail guard of a passing engine had struck the deceased's neck, in which there was a deep gash. The left arm was badly shattered. Death was apparently instantaneous. Mr. Ward was nearly 70 years of age.

1917 05 09

Lady Bellringers - Owing to the shortage of men bellringers at the Sawston Parish Church, four young ladies are learning the art, and are making good progress.

1917 05 30

Sawston Paper Mills - We are informed that Messrs. Spicer Brothers Ltd have purchased the old-established business of Edward Towgood and Sons, paper manufacturers, of the Sawston Paper Mills, Sawston. The business was announced to be sold by auction, but it was subsequently stated that it had been disposed of privately.

1918 01 23

Record Floods,—As a result of the heavy fall of snow on the evening of January 15-16, Cambridge was visited during the weekend by such high floods as have not been known for many years. With the

melting of the snow the Rivers Cam and Granta assumed a very muddy and turbulent appearance, and the water gradually increased in volume until in places it overflowed its banks and inundated many of the low-lying lands in the district. Since Sunday morning, however, when the floods were at their height, the waters have subsided with remarkable rapidity.—Great havoc and distress was caused by flooding to houses situate in Mill Lane, Sawston, the houses being under water some four or five deep from Saturday midday until Monday morning. The deepest flood for 15 or 20 years was experienced at Ickleton on Saturday. The river began to overflow on Friday afternoon, so that several meadows were under water, but by early Saturday morning the meadows between Ickleton and Chesterford were inundated. The people in Mill Street had a very unpleasant experience, as the street was flooded from one end to the other to the depth of several feet. Most of the people had to keep in their houses, and in some cases the basements of the houses had about six or more inches of water . . . If the river had been banked up along the meadow at the bottom of the street much inconvenience would have been saved 18 01 23a

1918 02 27

The Floods,—we understand that a special committee has been appointed to find out the cause of the recent flooding of Mill Lane Sawston where damage was done to homes of people and other property. A preliminary meeting has already been held, and it has been decided that a thorough inspection of the river is to be made shortly to find out the cause and to suggest, if possible, a remedy to prevent floods of a similar description. The Special Committee consists of representatives of the Linton Rural District Council, the Sawston, Whittlesford, Duxford and Ickleton Parish Councils, and Mr. H. G. Spicer of the Sawston Paper Mill together with the District Surveyor.

1919 05 07

Sawston extensive floods, cottages collapse, Granta bursts banks – 19 05 07b photos – 19 05 14b

1919 05 14

Houses Collapse, The recent floods had had serious effects upon houses in the neighbourhood of Sawston and Whittlesford, where floods have had serious effects on a number that had become uninhabitable, and some have collapsed altogether. A row of cottages between the two villages had been flooded and are expected to collapse at any moment

1919 05 28

Floods.—It is a great relief to the inhabitants of Sawston to know that the authorities are taking steps to minimise the danger of floods in the district. The work of removing trees and all obstructions from the river in the vicinity is progressing.

1919 06 18

Big gathering of mothers – About 400 members of the Mothers Union in the Camps Rural Deanery assembled at Balsham Rectory. They hailed from Whittlesford, Sawston, Pampisford, Ickleton, Duxford, Castle Camps, Horseheath, Linton, Bartlow and Balsham. They partook of tea, and were addressed by the Bishop of Ely and Mrs. Eager, from the Central Mothers' Union, London.

1910 09 10

Rats — The Sawston Parish Council have decided to offer 1½ d for the body of every rat caught in Sawston.

1920 01 07

Rats killed. Up to December 3rd last the number of rats killed in the county and paid for by Cambs County Council under the Rats Order, was 35,516. The districts concerned were: Little Abington (number of rats killed 504), Ashley (980), Balsham (2,718), Borough Green (358), Bottisham (999), Cheveley (631). Chippenham (838), Great Chishill (322), Croxton (225), Dullingham (1,205), Duxford (754), Elsworth (39), Fordham (8,072), Fowlmere (489), Harston (322), Hauxton (186). Heydon (1,593), Hildersham (236). Horseheath (324), Ickleton (1,095), Isleham (3,809), Kennett (1,422). Kirtling (396), Kneisworth (549), Linton (584), Lode (548), Melbourn

(442), Newton (160), Pampisford (429), Sawston (332), Shepreth (313). Shudy Camps (1.38), Snailwell (786), Soham (2,896), Stetchworth (1,105) Swaffham Prior (1,032), Thriplow (464), Waterbeach (967), West Wickham (995), Whittlesford (324), Great Wilbraham (846), Wood Ditton (2,017).

1921 03 02

Sawston war memorial unveiled – 21 03 02c

1921 06 08

Denys Huddleston, squire of Sawston, killed in motor accident, Tottenham – 21 06 08g

1924 03 10c

Magistrates were told that in Sawston there were five ale houses, six beer houses with “on” licences, one beer house with an “off” licence, and one grocer’s licence. It was 594 paces from the Black Bull to the Greyhound, and in between these two pubs there were eight other licensed houses. On the south side of the Morning Star was the Cross Keys and the Woolpack beerhouse. On the north side was the Commander-in-Chief and the Fox beerhouse

1924 11 18c

Compensation was approved in respect of six licensed houses, which have been closed. They were The King’s head, Cottenham, The Dolphin, Waterbeach, The Little Rose at Swavesey, The Coach and Horse, Linton, The Morning Star at Sawston & The Duke of Wellington in Cambridge, licensee Mr A.S. Scales where compensation was agreed at £1,000.

1925 08 07

Sawston’s sewerage system being in level country it constantly needs flushing and for this purpose the Parish Council has been paying labour. A scheme was now proposed by which water would be raised by windmill pump on land standing in the highest part of the village to flush out the pipes. At Linton people emptied refuse into the gutterways so that the matter ran into the river and accumulated there.

1925 09 03

Linton Rural District Council congratulated themselves on the latest movement in their house building campaign. Houses are to be built at Balsham at £400 or less apiece – assuming free sites can be obtained. On these conditions rents of 4s 6d a week are to be charged and the cost to the rates is only a farthing in the £. They were also likely to be able to build houses at West Wickham and Carlton and there were vacant sites at Sawston & Hildersham. The Government would give £12.10s a year for 40 years for every cottage built.

1925 10 14

The principal item dealt with by the County Education Committee was the decision to recommend the scheme for a village college at Sawston. Six villages are catered for in various ways and the provision of a new building would cost no more than the patching up of the existing of the old one. The senior school would provide for 200 boys and girls with rooms for instruction in practical subjects (woodwork, metalwork, cookery, laundry and housewifery, including mothercraft)

1926 03 18

The Rural Council heard that Sawston had enlarged and new cottages were badly needed. The Chairman thought they would be built for the factory hands & it was wrong that the taxpayer should be asked to shoulder the burden for the increasingly prosperous factory. Mr Bowers said if the Council wished industries to increase and prosper it was up to them to provide new homes for workmen. Men would not seek employment where no proper houses were to be found. Mr Eccles said the cottages were wanted for people who were at present living in hovels.

1926 04 14

Sawston Boys' School was crowded to do honour to Mr J.C. Falkner who recently retired from the headmastership. Commander Eyre of Sawston Hall, who made the presentation, expressed amazement that any man could have endured schoolmastering for 33 years! The Commander has only been in residence since 1925 but Sawston people have already learned to appreciate him as one who is sincerely interested in their welfare and the relations between the villagers and the Squire are of the very happiest. Mr Falkner said it was impossible to refrain from mentioning those lads – nearly 40 of them – from the school who had died in the service of their country and the audience stood in silent homage

1926 05 10

The Paper Mills at Sawston have been running ever since the General Strike was declared, the manager said. "Although half the men were out the other half remained loyal. Many of those who went are now offering their services, but it is impossible at present to find work for them". Little effect has been felt at the Papworth Tuberculosis Colony. Lorry drivers have got all supplied through from London without mishap, and there is no shortage of newspapers, the "British Gazette" having been obtainable in good numbers. Undergraduates were seen today delivering coal. All were attired in morning dress. Their labours will leave abiding marks.

1926 05 27

Sawston is feeling the ill-effects of the general strike. Of nearly 150 who left the Paper Mills, nearly 70 are still out. For about a week the union members remained solid, but after this some began to return to work. A condition of any that are re-engaged is that they would sign a declaration that they would have nothing more to do with any union. A good many employees have worked at the mills for many years but the formation of the local branch of the union is quite recent, having started in April 1925.

1926 08 06

Mr Blake, of the National Union of Printing and Paper Workers spoke of the situation in Sawston. There were 35 members still out on strike but the firm refused to meet representatives of the union or to reinstate them. An article in the "Workers' Weekly" had claimed the union had deserted the men but he had done his best to brighten the lives of the Sawston workers. A person in the village connected with another trade union was endeavouring to induce workers into their ranks. These were "despicable tactics".

1927 09 15

The question of water supply was becoming more and more serious, Linton RDC was told. In one side of the district there was no water. The ponds were all very low, and the people were drinking out of roadside drains water which was impregnated with decayed vegetable matter. There was no even water enough for cleanliness, and something must be done. But the other side was plentifully supplied. Sawston people would object to paying for Horseheath or Castle Camps. The question was whether they should go on digging wells or whether it was possible to take any other measure which would be more perfect or less expensive

1927 10 18

The County Education Committee approved the erection of a village college at Sawston. The basis of the institution is a Senior School which will be an elementary and not a secondary school. This will provide an advanced education for older children and pay special attention to practical instruction, particularly woodwork, domestic subjects and gardening. They were anxious to give a really good education on a rural basis. It was an experiment that was practically unique. The name 'village college' has been chosen for a building which provided for both elementary and adult (including agricultural) education and at the same time would be available for social activities.

1927 12 27

The Ortona motor buses had a terrible time in the blizzard. Two buses were stuck in snowdrifts out Newmarket way, one near Teversham corner, a Willingham bus on the Huntingdon Road near the Five Bells, a Caxton bus near Toft and a Saffron Walden bus near Whittlesford station, where they remained many hours. Another bus got nearly to Sawston before it got stuck and had to be dug out and the Fulbourn bus could only get as far as the Robin Hood, Cherry Hinton. Relief gangs were sent to the rescue of the stranded vehicles and they were being dug out and coming home one by one.

1928 02 14

Sir – seeing that Sawston village has now been supplied with electricity for lighting, heating and power, I would like to express my sincere appreciation of this great boon to our village. I am delighted with the light in my house; it is clean and healthy and the supply is excellent. The village streets are now well lighted and it is a real pleasure to walk out in the evenings – William Resbury

1928 09 14

About 50 children from Milton Road school, Cambridge journeyed by special Ortona bus to visit the industries of Sawston. Two groups called on the paper mill where the various processes were explained while another was piloted through the glove factory by Mr Hutchings whose patience in giving so many simple explanations calls for commendation. They joined forces to visit the works of Messrs Thomas Evans to see the various processes skins go through. During the journey home childlike voices exuberantly declared that they would live in Dixie, where the hens lay omelettes. School was reached at 8 pm

1928 09 17

Standing on the site where 60 years ago business commenced in a small thatched cottage, the Sawston Co-operative Society's attractively reconstructed premises were officially opened. The old exterior has been pulled down and an up-to-date imposing front substituted. The Assembly Room upstairs has been dispensed with and the whole floor made into a spacious furnishing department. The Boot Department, which was formerly incorporated into the drapery section, is now entirely independent. Since 1867 so much trade had been done that if members had left their dividends and interest to accumulate it would have been possible to buy all the property in Sawston and allow the members to live in their houses rent free.

1930 10 09

Before the days of Sawston college – schools # c.36.6 – 30 10 09b-c

1930 10 30

The Prince of Wales set the seal of Royal approval upon an ambitious scheme of rural education which has attracted world-wide attention when he opened Sawston Village College. Should it prove a success it will prove a pattern for a chain of similar colleges not only for the rest of this county but for vast Dominions beyond the seas. The Prince received a most enthusiastic reception. The village was gay with bunting and the inhabitants turned out en masse to wave and cheer. 30 10 30a-c

1931 03 06

A referee said there had been disorderly conduct by the crowd at a football match at Haddenham. He stopped the game twice to take the names of spectators. Later some of them got into the dressing room and tried to strike him. The club said he did not control the game properly and disallowed a goal when the keeper carried the ball across the line. It spoilt the game and annoyed the crowd. They wanted the match against Sawston Paper Mills reserves to be replayed and a competent referee appointed. 31 03 06e

1931 05 08

A controversy has arisen as to the use of the hall at Sawston Village College as a cinema. The Education Committee says it cannot be used on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays as it would turn it

from an educational centre into an ordinary cinema. But they had promised that the Spicers pictures would be transferred to the new hall. A rival cinema scheme had been brought forward and its promoters were voted en bloc as school managers. 31 05 08m & n

1931 05 29

Cambridge professors were amongst scientists who made a film at Spicers of Sawston and less than four hours afterwards saw themselves in natural colours on the screen. Experiments in colour have been going on for two years. At present efforts are being concentrated on motion-picture film. One of the difficulties has been the provision for a sound track but this has been surmounted and talking colour films will be made. Sawston may become a complete film colony rivalling Elstree in importance. 31 05 29a

1931 12 11

A fire broke out at Messrs Towgood's Film Factory at Sawston but was quickly extinguished by the staff brigade. It was confined to a part of the factory where benzine was used, and the damage kept to one dyeing machine and the roof of the building over it. Some film was involved, but this being non-inflammable, did not burn. 31 12 11c

1932 07 08

Windows of the houses in Sawston were rudely shaken by a heavy explosion, followed after a brief interval by another equally loud. People ran into the streets and rumours were rife – two aeroplanes were down, an anti-aircraft gun was being tested at Duxford. The noise was called by huge rockets purchased by the Parish Council as fire warnings. They are intended bring firemen on bicycles to the station where they secure a horse, harness it to the engine and gallop to the fire. It would doubtless soon be got under control – if there was only a water supply! 32 07 08e

1932 09 16

At the opening of the new Spicers Theatre at Sawston Mr H.G. Spicer recalled that they had provided silent pictures for ten years, now they would be 'talking' or 'musical'. He hoped to also have variety entertainment, theatricals and dances. He then attacked the County Education Officer, Herbert Morris, over the previous agreement for showing pictures at Sawston Village College. 32 09 16b

1932 11 11

Sawston cinema controversy – 32 11 11b & c

1933 01 19

Some of the buildings erected during 1932 in Cambridge and district by Kidman and Sons Ltd, Abbey Walk. 'The British Queen', Histon Road, Sedley Taylor School, Cambridge Co-operative Society cooked meat factory and milk depot, St Paul's church hall in Suez Road and Spicer's Cinema, Sawston (Full page advertisement with photos). 33 01 19 a & b

1934 09 06

At Sawston leather works the sheep skins used are mainly from New Zealand and Australia but the finest come from St Ives. When the skins get to the factory from the butcher they are fleshed and then split in two. The outer one is made into handbags and hat-bands, the inner into chamois leather for window-cleaning leathers and gloves - many of the factory employees take them home and do the sewing there. The skin trimmings are moved to the Granta works at Stapleford and processed into sheets of gelatine. 34 09 06

1934 11 08

Dufay film Sawston factory lecture – 34 11 08

1935 08 08

Sawston water supply – 35 08 08a

1936 02 15

River Cam Internal Drainage Board opposed Sawston – 36 02 15c

1936 03 14

Broadsheets were once very popular in Cambridge and now Dr F. Carr of Sawston has revived the tradition with one featuring Mr David who has been selling books for 40 years. He pays tribute in a poem printed on antique paper with two admirable sketches of David and his stall by his son, Mr Hubert David. The broadsheet is published at a shilling and should make a strong appeal to the friends and customers (the words are almost synonymous) of one of Cambridge's celebrities 36 03 14a

1936 12 10

King Edward VIII has abdicated. As Prince of Wales he came to Cambridge in June 1921 to receive an honorary degree and inspect Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. More than 5,000 children lined the route so they could catch a glimpse of 'Prince Charming' as he was called in those days. His last visit in June 1932 was to inspect the Leys School. There have been visits to the County, he opened Sawston Village College in July 1930 and reviewed the Royal Air Force at Duxford in 1935 36 12 10d

1937 01 09

The Blue Book Directory of Cambridge, published by the St Tibbs Press, comprises not only streets, trades and names of residents but also a wealth of information and a portrait gallery of our civic fathers (and mothers). An endeavour was made in 1936 to cover the immediate environs, including Shelford, Sawston, Milton and Grantchester. Now it has been enlarged to bring in Girton and Cottenham together with details concerning new or extended streets on the outskirts of the borough. It is extraordinary good value for five shillings. 37 01 09a

1937 01 15

The head offices and showroom of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company in Sidney Street, where all the most modern and efficient appliances for heating, cooking, refrigeration and lighting can be seen, were built in 1909. Today the total number of consumers is in the region of 25,000. Recently the villages of Willingham, Longstanton and Oakington were supplied with gas and mains are being laid to Sawston. 37 01 15b

1937 05 31

Glorious sunshine and the tree-shaded beauty of Impington Park should have promised a record number of spectators at the County Agricultural Show. But attendance was well down. The reason was the Empire Air Display at Duxford Aerodrome – this is notoriously a mechanical age! But there was always something to see with cattle, sheep and goats coming under the judges' eye. His Majesty the King gained several prizes for his sheep from the Sandringham estate while both Chivers and Messrs Towgoods of Sawston had many entries in the pig classes. 37 05 31a

1937 07 16

The Cambs and Hunts Electricity Company plans to erect overhead power lines in Sawston met opposition. Up to 12 months ago they had laid cables underground but this was now too expensive. In Mill Lane the cost would be £183 for overhead wires, but £254 if buried. But SCRDC said that to preserve the amenities of the village, this should not be permitted. The roads could not be called beautiful but putting up poles would make them more unbeautiful. Sawston was a considerable consumer of electricity and the company should meet the cost 37 07 16b.

1937 07 22

Previously warned by the Town Crier, the inhabitants of Sawston gathered for the annual free pea picking. Pails, baskets and sacks were collected for the purpose and passers through the town saw a strange procession. The pickers were started off sharp to time by a blast on the local police constable's whistle. Many years ago, a Sawston squire was deeply affected by the imprisonment of a poor widow who had stolen some peas, and he afterwards grew two acres annually for the poor to

pick themselves. On his death he made arrangements in his will for the continuation of the custom. Today the peas are grown on land belonging to Mr R. Driver of Huntingdon Farm. 37 07 22

1937 08 20

Sir – way back in the 1890s I booked a seat with the Sawston carrier. The morning broke with a grey sky. I remember his suspicious look until I paid him the ninepence fare and threepence extra providing there was no ‘scorching’. I also recollect his need of a shave. We made Stapleford in the first three hours, on to Shelford and rounded the Stone Bridge, Trumpington about noon, to schedule. But then the offside-wheel came off. I alighted at Market Hill, walked down Petty Cury and boarded a horse tram. Then from the delightful rhythm and sway of that luxuriously-upholstered vehicle I drank in the scenery of the skyscraper buildings in Regent Street before returning home – ‘Blisters’ 37 08 20

1938 08 19

Rural depopulation is a serious issue as the influx of people to the towns continues. The towns had all the amenities of life – water, electricity and gas – and men and particularly women would not suffer the lack of comforts which others enjoyed. These amenities must be provided in the country. The Government had given a million pounds for water supplies in rural districts, but that grant was exhausted. Sawston waterworks was the fourth in South Cambs and if people came to the district the rateable value would improve enabling them to construct more 38 08 19a

1939 03 13

Keith Falkner, the famous singer, gave a concert in Sawston, the village of his birth, in aid of a memorial to his father. He brought several other artists from London 39 03 13

1939 09 02

The fete at Spicer’s Sports Ground for Sawston Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre was curtailed by messages requesting mothers to return to their homes for the reception of youthful evacuees. Beside the usual stalls an entertainment by Miss Joan Slipper and her Juvenile Spraklettes had been arranged together with a marionette show. However the entertainer had been prevented from attending owing to being called up for national service. It was decided to have the public tea immediately. 39 09 02b

1939 10 06

South Cambs RDC discussed a request from the School of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart for the transfer of 300 evacuees from other parishes into Sawston. Thirty children had arrived in Ickleton who were dirty, filthy, badly-clothed and badly cared for. They were put into cottages which are clean, bright and healthy and the cottage people had changed them. The children are now clean and tidy, their manners have improved. But if they were taken to Sawston there would be no more evacuees taken in that village. 39 10 06

1939 12 01

Councillors objected to Roman Catholic evacuees being moved from Linton to Clacton at public expense. They were in very comfortable homes, were well looked after and educated. “I do not care if they are Catholics or Hindus but they should not be moved at public expense”, one said. Now they were being removed simply because the Roman Catholics wanted them to be under their supervision. They had previously agreed to take another 80 children; 40 were due to arrive at both Sawston and Whittlesford, but none came. At Bassingbourn only six out of 27 had arrived. Rooms had been gone ready and people ought not to be put about like that. They had begged and worried people into taking them and they didn’t turn up. 39 12 01f & g

1940 01 25

Coal merchant charged excessive sum for delivery coal to Dernford House, Sawston, when in use as a sick bay for evacuated children – 40 01 25a

1940 01 25

Sawston pantomime – 40 01 25b

1940 11 29

Awarded Bar to D.F.M. A bar to the D-F.M. has been awarded to Sgt. Ernest William Gimson, of No. 107 Squadron, R.A.F. Gimson was born at Sawston, but his home is at Babakin, Western Australia. Before joining the R.A.F., he was a storekeeper's assistant. He was awarded his D.F.M. for gallantry in air operations. Sgt. Ernest Gimson attended the Linton schools for a number of years before he emigrated with his parents to Australia. His lively interest in the village has always been maintained as he had a number of pen friends with whom he corresponded regularly. His father, Mr. E. R. Gimson, served in the Great War, 1914-18, and afterwards during his service with Messrs. R. Holtum & Sons, took a very active interest in the Linton branch of the British Legion before leaving for Australia.

1941 03 07

Smock Wearing Shepherd, — Writing from 57 New Road, Sawston (says Watchman), Mr. Alf A. Hills states: "I was greatly interested in the letters from your readers of 'The Passing Hour' last week in regard to the shepherd mentioned there Mr. E. Gilbey, who is living with me, informs me that the name is spelt quite correctly and that his name was William Gooden, an uncle of his wife's, whose maiden name was Jessie Gooden. This old gentleman used to wear his smock on Sunday as well as weekdays, and as far as Mr. Gilbey remembers, used to visit him at Worsted Lodge (in smock) in 1905.

1941 07 04

Open Day. — Friday last was Open Day at Sawston Village College. The main attraction was the crowning of the May Queen (Nina Cromack, of Shelford) by Mrs. Robert Ellis, of Cottenham. Folk dancing was performed by the girls and physical training exercises by second year boys. The afternoon's programme included exhibitions of needle work, woodwork, metalwork and art. Evacuees took part in all the activities.

1941 08 21

Sawston Spitfire fund dance 'fracas' — 41 08 21

1941 12 22

Sawston bakery gutted by fire — 41 10 22b; photo — 41 10 23a

1941 10 10

Diamond wedding.—Mr. and Mrs. T. Tofts, of 12 Malting Cottages, Linton, celebrated the 60th anniversary of their wedding on Monday. They were married at Linton Parish Church on October 6, 1881, by the Rev. Hall. Mr. Tofts, who is 86, is a native of Linton, having been born at 3 Malting Cottages, while Mrs. Tofts, whose maiden name was Hannah Brown, was born in Morley's Yard, Sawston. She will be 86 in December. The old couple have lived in the same cottage during the whole of their married life, and Mr. Tofts probably set up a record by living in the same row of cottages for 86 years. They have lived a very active life, and Mr. Tofts is still able to "dig for victory" in his garden and his wife to do her own housework.

1941 10 24

A disastrous fire broke out on Tuesday at the premises of the Sawston Co-operative Society, Sawston, resulting in extensive damage to the bakery, which was practically gutted. The outbreak was discovered at 11.30, by which time the flames had a good hold on the premises. Adjoining buildings, many of which are largely of timber construction, were at one time threatened, but the prompt arrival of the Sawston Fire Service and the Cambridge Borough Fire Brigade confined the fire to the Co-operative premises. The fire broke out again on Wednesday, necessitating another visit by the firemen. Hoses were played on the smouldering ruins.

1942 01 02

"Sam Weller" of Sawston. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wakefield, of Sawston, celebrated their golden wedding last week, and (says Watchman), in the course of some reminiscences, a correspondent tells

me that many years ago. Mr. Wakefield often took part in local entertainments, frequently playing the part of Sam Weller in Dickens sketches. As a result, he has a still much treasured letter, dated January 18, 1888, addressed as follows, which reached him without difficulty. —

Postman, please this letter take,

To my trusty old friend, Wake,

He is a tall, thin lanky feller,

Better known as Sammy Weller.

In bed, postman, I'll be bound;

In Sawston town he can be found.

Then he will stand you a pot of beer,

As sure as he lives in Cambridgeshire

1943 07 03

Sawston Rose Queen Day. The delightful ceremony of crowning the Rose Queers was carried out at Sawston last week. The "Queen," elected by the vote of her fellow pupils, was Valerie Spicer (Pampisford), and she was followed to the throne by four girls who had had the honour in previous years, Joan Knight, Joan Bradford, Ruby Searle and Nina Cromack. The ceremony was performed by Mrs. H. Gage Spicer in the presence of a very large company of parents and friends of the children. Demonstrations of physical training and country and maypole dancing were followed by an exhibition of art needlework, metalwork, woodwork and cookery.

1942 11 20

Diamond Wedding. — Mr. and Mrs. Owen Churchman, who celebrated their diamond wedding at their residence, 4 Crampton Terrace, Sawston, yesterday (Thursday), were married at Bethnal Green on November 19, 1882. Mr Churchman comes of old-time Sawston stock. He joined the Metropolitan police on April 24 1884, retiring on pension in 1909 after 25 years' service. Mr & Mrs Churchman, both still hale and hearty, have three sons and two daughters, 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren

1943 04 02

Over 50 years at Mills. - By the death of Mr, Horace George Teversham, which took place at his residence, No. 1 Mill Lane (Sawston) on Friday, Sawston has lost one of its most respected inhabitants. Deceased, who was 72 years of age, worked in the Sawston Paper Mills for over half a century, and when he retired about two years ago, he was the recipient of a gold watch for long service.,

1943 04 09

Gamekeeper and breeder. The death has taken place at Great Topham, Essex, of Mr. William Andrews, who was well-known in Cambridgeshire as a gamekeeper and gun dog breeder. Born at Whittlesford, Mr. Andrews was for several years gamekeeper to the late Mr. H. Towgood, of Sawston Paper Mills. He held the post as head gamekeeper to the late Lord Eltisley, and for 15 years was head gamekeeper to the Longstowe Hall Estate. For the past eight years he had been head gamekeeper to the Du Cane Estates at Great Topham, Essex. Mr. Andrews' life as a gamekeeper and gun breeder brought him in touch with many great sportsmen, and his "prefix" Longstowe, which he held in the British Kennel Club, was widely known between the years 1920-35, when numerous prizes were won by the Longstowe gun dogs. His outstanding success was at Crufts' International Dog Show in 1929, when he won the Hundridge Game Farm Cup, the Liphook Game Farm Cup, Crufts silver cup, the Chairman's Cup and Spratt's silver cup. He was well-known in the show ring as a judge of sporting dogs.

1943 05 21

Big Fire at Sawston.—Over 600,000 paper containers were destroyed or damaged by fire and water at the premises of Pulp Industries Ltd., Sawston, on Tuesday. About £2,000 worth of damage was done to stock, and it is estimated that it will cost a further £1,000 to make good the damage to the buildings. But an official of the company said later: "Things are not as bad as were at

first thought." Nobody was hurt and the production machinery was unaffected. The cause of the fire it was stated, is not known, but the police have been carrying out investigations.

1944 03 17

Death of Mr. H. G. Spicer.—Many in Cambridgeshire and beyond will learn with regret of the death on Saturday last of Mr. Henry George Spicer, J.P., of 20 Old Queen Street, Westminster, and of Homewood, Sawston. He was 68. A former High Sheriff, Mr. Spicer was well-known in Cambridge as a magistrate, and on the retirement of Judge Farrant, became chairman of the Cambridge Division. He was known in Sawston as chairman of Edward Towgood and Sons, Ltd., the old-established paper mills, which he bought for his company in 1918, and which he re-organised and modernised extensively. He also bought the Towgood estate and other land in Sawston and Whittlesford, in order to develop a flourishing group of factories for companies of which he was chairman. For his employees and others in neighbouring villages, Mr. Spicer was particularly thoughtful, and for these he laid out a sports ground, erected a theatre and cinema and a reading room and library. He also supported many other local improvements and charities. He was a generous benefactor to Sawston Village College, which, when it was built, was the first of its kind in the country.

1944 04 28

Memorial Service. — At the memorial service held at Sawston last week for the late Mr. H. G Spicer, over 250 people were present, chiefly employees from the mills and factories in Sawston, from companies of which Mr. Spicer was chairman, and local residents.

1944 07 07

New Cambridgeshire J.P. — Mr. W. G. Hutchings, of Sawston, who was appointed a magistrate for the county, was sworn in at Linton Divisional Court on Wednesday and took his seat on the Bench.

1945 07 20

"Letters About Animals."—We have pleasure in announcing today the result of the "Letters About Animals" competition, organised on behalf of the R.S.P.C.A. A large number of entries was received, including batches from four schools. After careful reading the letters were reduced to 20, and from these Dr. Rattray has selected the following winners: Seniors, 12 and 13 years—1 Rita Britchford, 22 Hillside, Sawston ("Shy animals and birds are afraid of human beings"); 2 Margaret Freestone, Sunnyside, London Road, Sawston ("The care of dogs"); 3 Rosemary Godfrey, 21 Storey's Way, Cambridge ("The care of rabbits"); Juniors, 11, 10 and 9 years—1 Joyce Pestell, 19 Hope Street, Mill Road, Cambridge ("Things I ought to do for my pet animal"); 2 John Tooke, 79 Ainsworth Street, Cambridge ("Things I ought to do for my pet animal"); 3 Jane Unwin, 29 Chalmers Road, Cambridge ("Things I ought to do for my pet animal").

1945 10 26

Ploughing Match. — A ploughing match of the Sawston District Young Farmers' Club and the Hinxton, Ickleton and Duxford Ploughing Society was held on land belonging to Messrs. A. Home and L. Howe on Saturday, when there were 22 entries for the horse and tractor classes. It was judged by Messrs. A. Tinney, of Horseheath; F. H. Garner, manager of Higham Estates; C. L. Marr and J. Smith. The competitors found ploughing difficult, as the ground was hard. Refreshments on the field were provided by the president, Mr. I. Howe. The event was followed by a ploughmen's supper in the Sawston Village College, the principal guests at which were Mrs. Bowen, who has always taken an interest in agricultural activities in the district, and who presented the prizes; Mr. Howe, Mr S. A. Taylor, Mr. J. A. McMillan, Mr. Tangney and Mr. Marr, Mr. W. L. Wood was toastmaster, and a number of toasts were proposed and replied to. The evening concluded with an entertainment by the Foxton Yokels Concert Party. The following were winners: Single-furrow horse plough—1 S. Pledger, 2 A. Whitehead and H. Nunn (equal). Two-furrow tractor plough—1 S. A. Badcock, D. Neale. Three or more furrow tractor—1 E. C. Barton, 2 F. Whitby, 3 J. Wright. Three or more furrow tractor plough for young farmer's—1 J. Churchman, '2 H. D. J Stigwood, 3 B. Beavis, complimentary, L. Allen. Special prizes: Best horse team—A. Whitehead; best tractor turn-

out—D. Stigwood; best work done by a Ransome tractor plough (given by makers)—I. R. Fordham, 2 H. R. Driver.

1947 03 14

Cambridge has been hit today by some of the worst flooding for 30 years. The rapidly rising and flowing river has invaded riverside homes, Midsummer Common and other open spaces are flooded, there have been fears for the safety of Silver Street Bridge, and there is no sign of any diminution of the abnormal flow. There is an unconfirmed report that the Byron's Pool sluice has broken, and Grantchester Meadows and the "Backs" are completely under water. Silver Street was closed to all traffic during the morning. There were fears that the rush of water would seriously affect the foundations of the bridge. Street lighting was switched on in Linton when residents of houses in Meadow Lane and Chapel Terrace made a hurried evacuation of their waterlogged homes. The water rose to well over knee-deep but was subsiding this morning. At Sawston the sub-power station was marooned and electricity was cut off this morning. The Great North Road beyond Brampton is under water and the A.A. scout at Brampton cross roads was "up to his knees" at his post this morning

1948 09 25

Speaking on the Radio "Country Magazine" broadcast from Histon Reg Robinson, a Babraham farmer, said "You'll only get one quart out of a waggoner", which had a similar meaning to "a pint out of a pint pot". The "waggoner" was a grey china mug out of which the waggoners of bygone days used to have a quart when they stopped at a public house. "The last one I saw was at the King's Head, Sawston," Mr Robinson added. "Some of them used to have a pattern with a black line round the top". I wonder if there are any to be found in local "pubs" these days?

1949 08 04

South Cambs RDC have accepted an offer from the Ministry of Health for 100 aluminium bungalows for workers in vital industries. They were informed that Duxford and Sawston appeared to qualify for the bungalows which cost about £1,285 each for a group of between 20 and 50 houses.

1950 07 07

Teachers, parents and children gazed hopefully at the threatening skies when sudden rain held up the Rose Queen Festival presented by pupils of the Sawston village school. Happily it was only a passing shower and the Rose Queen (Beatrice Turner) and her attendants were able to open the ceremony with a procession which made up for anything the weather lacked in colour. After the Queen had been crowned by Mrs Elma De Bruyne she was entertained by a play in mime. Costumes were by Mrs Sharp and the choir was instructed by Mr E. Foster.

1951 02 09

There was good news for the villagers at Pampisford when the Traffic Commissioners agreed to grant both the proposals of Premier Travel Ltd and the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company for buses to Cambridge. The head teacher said many people found walking to the White Horse, Sawston, was too far to be convenient for buses. Now elderly people would only have to walk a mile to the bus stop.

1952 06 02

In spite of its size Sawston has never had a church hall and for the last 17 years parishioners have worked and saved. The war intervened but at the end of 1950 the project was revived. Several sites were considered and one in Church Lane, centrally placed between "Old Sawston" and the post-war housing estates selected. A building licence was granted on the strict condition that only voluntary labour should be used & work started in earnest. The labour force consists of 63 men, boys and girls and they have now erected the "shell" of the building. Work begins at 6.30 each evening and continues until nightfall. It is hoped the hall will be finished before the end of the year

1952 10 02

Cambridgeshire Education Committee has approved a proposal to provide Grammar School education at two village colleges – Sawston and Impington. If agreed the work of building grammar school

wings may begin next April. At the end of the five-year scheme there will be 300 grammar school places. They had been looking forward to the establishment of a country grammar school with a useful house that could have been adapted. Melbourn Bury, home of a former Chairman of the Education Committee, had not received Ministry approval

1952 12 18

Following an inspection by South Cambs R.D.C. of some “no fines” concrete houses they recommend the erection of 100 such houses in Sawston, and 50 in Duxford, Linton and Bassingbourn. The houses were comfortable to live in and of a smaller area than the type of house they had been building. They will not have to find any labour for erection as the firm will supply the men who will probably be billeted in the Trumpington National Service Hostel

1953 10 23

London County Council proposes to settle 5,000 Londoners in Sawston, parish councillors were told. They would be a cross-section of the community and their employment would be arranged in various light industries that would be established. There was certain to be further industrial development in the village over the next 20 years and it would be better if the development could be orderly. The proposals would be bound to cause some dislocation in their life but if the national interest demanded the growth of Sawston it was the duty of the Parish Council to press for the development of amenities.

1953 11 02

Will there be “another Morris Oxford factory” on the doorstep of Cambridge University? Under proposals to send London ‘overspill’ population to Sawston the village would be expanded from its present 2,000 population to 7,500; it is simply a case of bringing out groups of people with industry and putting them into the country. When local people realise that it is a national problem they will either decide for or against, in which case as far as Sawston is concerned the matter will cease.

1953 11 10

One hundred years of cricket was celebrated at Sawston. T.F. Teversham said: “Thomas Sutton Evans was rather an unpleasant individual, but in 1853 he bought a field, Spikes End, and thanks to him Sawston’s cricket stands high”. He went on to mention Bill Warren, Jim Sunshine and Bill Cockell, all Cambs men who by their ability had given something to local cricket and together with Mr Peter Taylor, a perfect model for all young batsmen, and Mr ‘Shine’ Ridgeon of St Giles cricket club joined in the celebrations

1953 11 21

Far too many people are getting far too excited over reports to make Sawston an overflow town for London, says the chairman of South Cambs R.D.C. Despite newspaper headlines there has been no application to build houses and the London County Council have not decided whether they want to go to Sawston. As regards housing the R.D.C. have already built some 226 post-war houses with a further 80 under construction and 14 in contract. This may be a record.

1954 05 03

County planners say that the object of Sawston’s development plan is to assist in the distribution of Greater London population and to provide a ‘safety valve’ for industrial growth in the Cambridge area, otherwise expansion within the city might have to be accepted. If market towns such as Royston and Haverhill had been in Cambridgeshire the policy for expansion could be controlled and the Sawston plan could be dropped. It was in the best interests of the County to leave the matter open. But Coun Burkitt said they had no intention of suggesting London come to Sawston.

1954 07 27

Membership of the Cambridgeshire Local History Council has increased, attendance at meetings and excursions is higher than ever & the Bulletin had been published more or less on time, but there is still much to do. Local History groups in Sawston and Fulbourn are flourishing but there are large areas of the county that are sadly undeveloped as far as local history is concerned. They needed more village

correspondents and anybody with old pictures of their village should notify them. There would be a room built at the Shire Hall in the future for the archives and it would be a good thing to get the interest of school children.

1954 09 11

Freddie Pope, 83, is a remarkable countryman who does a full day's work on the harvest field, working for his nephew, Mr Harold Driver, of Huntingdon Farm, Sawston. He looks after 60 head of cow stock and one day this year fed them in the morning, drilled ten acres of corn with his horse and fed the stock again in the evening. He went to live at Mill Farm, Pampisford in 1939; before that he farmed in the Ely district and was for a long time licensee of the 'Fish and Duck' near Stretham. This was in the Pope family for so long that the place is still known as Pope's Corner

1954 12 28

Although there were four babies born at the Cambridge Maternity Hospital on Christmas day, not one was given a seasonable name. The first to arrive was Susan Ellis of Beche Road, then Graham Child of Cherry Hinton followed by Peter Michael Jones of Sawston and Jeremy David Pratt of Hills Road, Cambridge.

1955 06 25

Sawston residents objected to the 'obnoxious smell' that would be caused if a sewerage disposal station were constructed near their homes. One said that he had never known a sewerage works not to smell and referred to the 'terrible stink along the Milton Road'. Experts said the smell did not come so much when the winds blew as in wet, warm muggy weather. 55 06 25b-c

1955 08 31

Sir - Many cottages in our villages have recently been demolished and others are marked out for removal in the near future but there is no involvement with local history organisations. At Sawston a row of 18th-century cottages have been demolished revealing remains of the old Black Swan public house for the first time. Such items ought to be recorded - T.F. Teversham 55 08 31a

1956 01 19

To the accompaniment of enthusiastic cheers and the loud roar from the exhaust Mrs Lawson Campbell snapped a blue ribbon with the first modern car - a jet-black Vanguard - to be driven from Mr B.J. Powell's newly-opened Sawston Garage. Situated off the High Street, tall and gracious, it is a fine example of modern building. The showroom is bright and stocked with a magnificent array of new cars. 56 01 19a

1956 10 23

Sawston Telephone Exchange has been converted to automatic working. Mrs Susannah Ward has been the caretaker-operator since the exchange first opened in 1923. She is now 89 years of age and has rendered yeoman service to the subscribers. When it first opened she performed all the operations throughout the 24 hours of the day with the assistance of her daughter, Mrs W. Bebee who is now the supervisor. The staff have now been transferred to Cambridge. 56 10 23a

1957 04 13

Great St Mary's church has a new mace which depicts the Virgin Mary resting on the arms of the University. It was made by Loughborough Pendred, the Cambridge woodcarver and magnificently gilded and decorated by Mr B. Winterton. There are other examples of Mr Pendred's work in Stretham, Teversham, Sawston, Cheveley and Great Shelford churches. 57 04 13

1957 06 01

Sawston Hall was left in a terrible state by troops who were billeted there during the war. Much of the panelling was split, many doors were off their hinges, the ceilings were cracked. The electric wiring was dangerous, the heating system destroyed and pipes freezing and bursting all over the house. Then there were three bombs and two landmines in the garden - and three cesspools. The owner, Captain

Huddleston, thought he would have to abandon it but then decided to open the house to the public. 57
06 01 & a

1957 09 20

Most Cambridge people are aware of the Gog Magog hills and remember the legend of the two giants whose graves they are said to represent. But until T.C. Lethbridge arrived on the scene no one thought of actually looking for the figures of the giants which were once visible from Sawston. Then in 1954 he started probing one side of the hill with a stainless steel rod and found not one giant, but three! Now in his new book 'Gogmagog, the buried gods' he explains his techniques and discoveries. 57 09
20b

1957 10 14

A new effluent purification plant at Spicers factory, Sawston, not only makes waste water drinkable but the sludge which is left behind is pumped out and converted into a paper mache texture which is used to make egg packing cases. It is the first system to achieve complete recovery of valuable raw material which would otherwise literally go down the drain and prevent river pollution. 57 10 04a

1957 10 18

Dior creations at Sawston Hall – 57 10 18

1958 04 29

The 60 miles, six-lap Gog Magog cycle road race started from the Red Lion, Cherry Hinton. It was neutralised over Limekiln Road but then three of the Cambridgeshire Road Club team, J. Morley, D. Cook and M. Pilsworth, made a break. Before Sawston, on the second lap, Mick Ward from Haverhill had to make mechanical adjustments but he was in fourth place by the time they came over the Gogs for the last time. 58 04 29a

1958 07 15

Parish Councils should be notified of any building development in their area, a meeting was told. At Sawston "some of the finest places are desecrated by factories. It's not a pretty parish by any means but what there is we would like to conserve", a delegate observed. But the planners complain that when they were consulted some parishes took rather long and some don't even reply at all. A builder said if parish councils were to decide sales of land they would be still more unpopular than they already were. 58 07 15

1959 01 02

Cambridgeshire Football Association was launched on 24th January 1884 at a meeting in the Guildhall. A trial game was organised between two teams selected from Old Perseans, Modern Perseans and Cassandra on one side and the Granta, Rovers, Printers and Albert on the other. Newmarket, Linton, Sawston Swifts and Cam affiliated at the outset. In those days the game was controlled by two umpires, one in each half of the field. Should they disagree the matter was referred to a referee who sat outside the field of play. 59 01 02 &a 59 01 06a

1959 01 26

Ten years of planning has safeguarded the interest of agriculture in Cambridgeshire by keeping the better land free for farming and by directing house building and other necessities on to the poorer land, the County Planning Officer told parish councillors. They had turned down applications for large areas of land in the neighbourhood of Cambridge: "One can only imagine what would have happened if the builders had got hold of that land. Cambridge would not be so pleasant a place as it is", he said. Sawston was one of the larger villages of the future with its population planned to expand from 2,600 to 7,500 people. 59 01 26c

1959 03 28

A new Village College may be provided at Shelford to take children from Stapleford, Harston and Hauxton, providing a compact area with economic transport arrangements. It would avoid the expansion of Sawston and Melbourn village colleges when the school leaving age is raised to 16. But it is not included in the Development Plan and it is not thought likely there would be any considerable increase in population. 59 03 28

1959 04 25

Sawston Hall second priest hole found – 59 04 25 & a

1959 05 04

Mary Tudor and Sawston Hall – another version – 59 05 04

1959 08 01

The Tickner family completed a century of licensees of the University Arms inn Sawston. It was erected in 1859 by Thomas Sutton Evans who founded the firm of manufacturers of parchment skiver and chamois leather. When he died in 1907 the licence was granted to his eldest daughter, Sarah Tickner who held it till her death in 1936 when she was over 90 years of age. Since then the landlord has been George Alexander Tickner, grandson of the first tenant. For many years the University Arms has been the headquarters of Sawston cricket and football teams. 59 08 01b & c

1959 09 11

Spicers of Sawston factory fire – 59 09 11e

1960 01 06

Candy Scott has made quite a name for herself as a dancer, actress and model. Now, at 20, she has taken on a new role – ghost-hunter. She spent a night at medieval Sawston Hall, sleeping in the same great four-poster bed in the same tapestried room used by Mary Tudor – ‘Bloody Mary’ – more than 400 years ago. According to spine-chilling tales told by many reliable witnesses Mary still visits the room in the dark, dead hours before dawn. Candy never saw her but says many other strange things happened during the night – icy winds, odd noises and doors opening and closing. 60 01 06

1960 01 07

South Cambs RDC are going into the ‘houses for sale’ business. They initially intended to use small sites away from Council house developments but now hope to build on land fronting the highway in existing estates at Babraham Road, Sawston and Symonds Lane, Linton as well as new sites at Duxford and Melbourn. They plan semi-detached houses with a garage to sell for £2,450. Mortgage repayments would be about three pounds a week. Applicants on the council’s waiting list will be informed. 60 01 07a

1960 04 04

Sawston parishioners have clubbed together to buy a car for their vicar, Rev Ronald Bircham. The new clerical grey Ford ‘Popular’ saloon is to be considered one of the amenities that go with the parish incumbency, not his personal property. “It is one of the most wonderful experiences I have ever had as a vicar”, he said. In the past parishioners had put their own cars at his disposal in emergencies, such as a call to a dying person, or he had hired one. The Bishop hopes other parishes may follow suit. 60 04 04

1960 04 24

Fred Matthews of Sawston has been singing at the village church for 72 years. At the age of 79 his strong baritone voice still rings out at many services accompanied in the choir by his own son and grandson. He is a jovial, robust character who is perfectly contented with memories of his active and varied life, including how he was once sent to Girton College to teach the ladies how to play cricket. His bell-ringing activities continue and his greatest pleasure is to take a trip to the seaside whenever

there's a spare seat on a coach be it with the WI, Young Wives or Mothers' Union – he does not mind.
60 06 24e

1960 08 18

Harry Bevan joined the Ortona Motor Company in 1912 and for seven years drove the bus to Sawston, for which he was allowed 50 minutes each way. Carrying parcels as well as a steady stream of passengers he made five journeys a day and using the maximum speed of 12 mph always had time for a good smoke break at the end. The first double-decker ran from Station Road Corner to the Rock Hotel on Cherry Hinton Road and back via Blinco Grove. It was not allowed to go through the town because it was a menace to shop signs. 60 08 18a & b

1960 11 02

Sawston Congregational Church is having to face the fact of falling numbers and real poverty. The little red brick chapel in the High Street which is capable of seating 240 now has a congregation of 35 at the Sunday morning service and 60 in the evening. The annual income is about £750 a year from which it must maintain the minister and his wife, keep the church, the large manse, caretaker's cottage and a large lecture hall in good repair. The congregation refuse anything approaching gambling to raise money, so there are no whist drives. But the original and beautiful little galleried chapel built in 1811 has been cleaned and painted and is used for the Sunday School, Men's Guild and Youth Club
60 11 02

1961 02 22

Sawston Village College has new unique sports hall - 61 02 22c

1961 05 10

Mrs R.F. Huddlestone of Sawston Hall has shown people round her home for the last 11 years. 61 05 10

1961 06 19

A workman had an amazing escape from death when an American F-100 Super Sabre jet fighter crashed less than ten yards from him, blowing a hole 15 feet deep in the centre of the main Sawston-Babraham Road. The blast of the exploding aircraft, which broke windows 200 yards away, picked him up and threw him into a field. The plane narrowly missed the Simplex dairy and farming equipment factory and a large housing estate. The pilot ejected and landed in the grounds of Pampisford Hall 61 06 19

1961 08 14

Fire swept through a warehouse and store room at the Radio and Television Service's factory in Gloucester Street. It was the second fire the firm has suffered at these premises this year, and the third to cause serious damage to the company's workshops in eight months. On New Year's Day the factory was badly damaged and rebuilding work is not yet complete. Then three weeks ago their paint spraying shops at Sawston were gutted. Detectives spent the weekend probing the cause which was identified as an electrical failure 61 08 14

1961 11 14

Twenty-five elderly people living at Sawston are spending their spare time knitting, sewing and toy-making to raise £125 to pay for a week's holiday at the seaside. The warden at the old folks' estate at Uffen Way set up the scheme after discovering that some of them have never had a holiday in their lives. Now they are working to meet a rush of orders for tea cosies, chair backs, socks and pullovers. It gives them something to do and helps keep their minds off aches and pains. 61 11 14

1961 12 14

Sawston Hall's history is being brought alive in a remarkable way. Floodlighting greets visitors but once inside candles are the only form of lighting, blending with Christmas decorations. Guests were given hot punch before the first of six tape recorders began a commentary by Wynford Vaughan

Thomas with music composed by a Franciscan friar. The portrait of Queen Mary was illuminated as the story of her escape was told and visitors were invited to look at the priest's hole beneath a stair. It has taken two years to perfect the presentation, a most successful experiment making the Hall even more attractive. 61 12 14a.

1962 06 22

The legends about a tunnel from Sawston Hall to the Gogs have been discounted by recent sewage excavations. But some villages say they did not go deep enough. During damp or misty weather a particularly dense line of fog may be seen stretching from the hall across the new churchyard in the direction of the Gogs. Others think a tunnel would have been further east, missing the churchyard or at the bottom of the Tudor lavatory shute, very near the famous hiding hole in the tower. 62 06 22b

1962 08 21

Trains were cancelled after a derailment blocked the main line at Sawston – only a mile from the scene of a similar accident six months ago. The Dagenham to Whitemoor (March) goods train broke in two on a slight incline. The break-away section of the train caught up with the rear of the front part bouncing a 5,000 gallon tanker filled with paraffin a hundred yards along the track. The tanker ended up standing on end with paraffin splashing on the line. Firemen stood by with foam sprayers as engineers cleared it using a giant crane 62 08 21

1962 09 07

The Co-operative Society's fish shop in High Street, Sawston, was badly damaged by fire fr the second time within a year. 62 09 07b

1962 11 16

People in Sawston were puzzled when a number of large steel structures appeared on the skyline over a field off the Babraham Road. Work had begun on Deal Grove Estate, a major private residential scheme of more than 250 houses and bungalows. They are all built on frameworks of steel which can be put up in two days. Exterior walls are made of brick, laminated plasterboard is used to line the interior walls and the steel roof rafters are assembled. When finished the building outwardly appears of normal construction. But owners need have no worries about sagging roofs or attacks of vermin or rot. 62 11 16

1962 11 23

BBEN estate, Deal Grove, Sawston – advert – 62 11 23

1963 05 09

Sawston Hall used as film setting – 63 05 09a

1963 05 09

South Cambs RDC plan new offices at Brooklands Avenue or Sawston – 63 05 09b

1963 07 05

The Sawston of today owes much to Cramptons which started their printing firm in 1861 when the village was recovering from the stunning impact of the industrial revolution. 63 07 05a

1968 08 31

Spicers Theatre, Sawston's only cinema, closed because of declining patronage and increased running costs. It had been kept in good condition with two main projectors which are new models. It was patronised mainly by the younger element but rarely more than half of the 288 seats were full even on peak days. Teenagers will now be at a loose end: there is no general youth club; the only thing left are pubs 68 08 31

1963 09 21

Sawston County Junior School opening – 63 09 21

1964 09 18

South Cambs 3,000th council house, Sawston – 64 09 18e

1965 12 11

Rapid growth of 'necklace villages' puts pressure on parish councils – Sawston example – 64 12 11

1965 07 26

Demolition of 24 old cottages at Sawston – quotes – 65 07 26c

1965 09 10

Sawston almshouses Dickensian conditions featured in letter – 65 09 10a

1969 05 17

Baldry's move to new factory in Harvest Way from Gold St; started in 1923, first to use all-automatic crown cork sealed bottles; took over Cambridge Soda Works and in 1925 acquired important contract for mineral waters with a local brewery; began bottling cider in 1930 and in 1935 extended range to confectionary, cocktail sausages, pickles and groceries. Bought Sawston Aerated Water Company – 69 05 17a, b, c

1972 12 27

Flu hit the now-traditional barrel-rolling relay race at Grantchester on Boxing Day and a cool drizzle resulted in fewer than usual spectators turning out for the event. But neither the practical difficulties nor the celebrations of the previous day prevented a team from nearby Barton romping home minutes ahead of their rivals to carry off the 48-pint prize. Their nearest rivals were a team from the Queen's Head at Sawston. Women made their debut last year but illness had depleted entries down to one team - from the Green Dragon in Cambridge so the four women agreed to divide into two team and Mrs Tricia Newman and Mrs Ann Carter won the day. Their prize was 48 pints

1973 01 12

In the medical field a health centre is a social parallel to a village college. A health centre provides a very wide range of services and facilities to its "customers" all in one place. While Cambridgeshire was not among the real pioneers it has certainly joined the vanguard quickly. For it is now believed that there are more general practitioners based in Cambridgeshire Health centres, as a percentage, than anywhere else in the country. And this has all happened since the first health centre in the county was opened at March in 1969. Sawston Littleport and Whittlesey followed that year. Ely and Soham got similar centres in 1971, two more at Bar Hill and Fulbourn are now being built for opening next spring

1973 11 20

Edward Towgood and sons ltd of Sawston, who run the 300 year-old paper mill, one of the oldest in the country, is to close in February. The mill, the last left in East Anglia, is part of the Reed paper and board group. The firm announced losses totalling more than £ ¼ million over the past three years. The other factors were acute labour shortage in the area and the alarming world shortage of materials. The decision to close in no ways affects its close neighbours Spices (stationery) ltd. It is hoped that many people currently working for Towgood would join Spicers.

1974 03 04

The last page was turned on nearly 500 years of history when Edward Towgood and sons ltd , probably the country's oldest paper mill, closed its door for the last time. The mill at Sawston is believed to date back to Caxton's time around 1490. Now its days are over. With accumulated losses in the last three years the present owners Reed Paper and Board have closed it down and made 150 people redundant

1974 06 04

The drug pushing problem in Cambridge was stopped overnight when four youths received prison sentences for drugs thefts. They were the heaviest ever imposed in the area & had been imposed for stealing drugs worth than £2,000 on black market from a Sawston chemist's shop. "All burglaries of chemists' shops have so far been detected by the Drugs Squad and in many cases the property has been recovered", said Chief Constable F. Drayton Porter

1974 09 07

Budge Brothers the Basildon-based builders who were developing a 145 house estate at Sawston, have gone into liquidation. The Sawston site and another 18 acres of land at Homefields, Histon, could provide more than 400 badly-needed new council homes. But the company's liquidation means that all their assets, including these two sites, are frozen. Houses on the Sawston site are well underway but building work stopped as long ago as February

1974 12 11

Sawston parish council criticised an application for the demolition of Peasgood's shop in the High Street. The building, believed to date from the sixteenth century, stands in the heart of the village's conservation area. It has been closed since a fire damaged it about two years ago and is now derelict. Large lorries using the narrow Portobello Lane at the side of it have caused further damage. Councillor Tony Cartwright called it the last example of a medieval yeoman's dwelling left in Sawston. "It is a building of considerable historic interest. We would be very sorry in twenty years' time if we let this happen" he said

1975 03 27

56 girls want to lead the cheers for the Cambridge "It's a Knock Out" team – and the organiser are so impressed they have arranged for a mass audition. The girls will be trained to do a cheer leader routine in front of a crowd of 10,000 when Cambridge takes on Peterborough and Oxford at the Cambridge City FC ground on May 25th. Contenders include Mrs Judith Slater of Sawston, Debbie Haddock of Haddenham, Ann Pretty, a ballet student of Cambridge and Mandy Turner, a food research technician

1975 12 17

Elderly Pampisford villagers have been spare a long trek to collect their pensions because a temporary post office now operates in the village hall. Their own post office closed when the postmistress, Mrs Brenda Beere, resigned because of her husband's ill health. On Tuesday afternoon Mr Philip Burns, who normally works at Sawston post office, sat at a wooden table, surrounded by Christmas decorations, and doled out pensions and mothers' allowances. He said he was not used to working in such colourful surroundings. "There is a play group here in the morning and they have decorated the place", he said.

1976 02 05

Details of a mass fight between a group of Sawston "smoothies" and a rival group called "greasers", were given to Cambridge magistrates. To some people "greasers" conjured up images of Marlon Brando types with leather jackets, many were, in fact, perfectly respectable. The term refers to anybody who rides a motor cycle, whether he be the local curate or the local villain.

1976 06 04

A Sawston housewife, Pam Parfey, did the shopping for the next six weeks last night – and didn't have to pay a penny. She was the lucky winner of a competition, "Rob the Co-op". The prize was £100-worth of groceries. There was just one hitch – Mrs Parfey and one helper had to pick up the food and take it through the check-out in fewer than 15 minutes. They managed it with two minutes to spare

1976 11 06

Clearing up after a meal and doing the washing up are not the most popular of tasks. For most people they are just chores. But for the residents of Orchard House, Sawston, they are some of the things which stops their home from feeling like an institution. This residential home for the elderly is trying very hard to give residents a sense of independence and freedom. It is divided up into five communal flats each shared by eight people with its own kitchen, sitting and dining rooms. The House is the third of its kind to be built in the area – there are others at Fulbourn and Toft – and will be opening a day centre for elderly people to visit during the week to have a bath, see a chiropodist or have their hair done.

1977 02 10

Planners took a long hard look around Cambridge to see where development could best be accommodated. They soon dismissed Histon or Girton because they have relatively limited potential for longer-term growth. At Milton there is considerable opportunity for expansion within the new road framework. Both Bar Hill and Waterbeach possess characteristics suitable for growth, but Cottenham is less accessible to Cambridge. Growth of up to 4,000 might be contemplated in the Teversham-Fulbourn area and the same at Bottisham. To the south it would be possible to develop the Clay Farm area of Trumpington and the Shelfords but Sawston seems to have the greatest development potential

1977 03 16

Residents in some of South Cambridgeshire's small villages which do not yet have main sewerage, could still be stuck with their cesspools and septic tanks in the year 2,000. Among schemes which do not now appear in Anglian Water Authority's programme are the Balsham & Teversham treatment works extensions and the Sawston Deal Farm pumping station. This means West Wrating and Weston Colville cannot go on to main sewerage and new housing at Sawston is in jeopardy

1977 05 19

It's three cheers for the red, white and blue in New Road, Sawston, where two families have already hung out the bunting for the Queen's Silver Jubilee. The homes now sport flags, bunting, a Union Jack and a giant-size poster of the Queen. "We are organising a street party for the children of New Road on June 6th and we thought we'd decorated the houses in advance", they said.

1977 06 27

In five seconds George Williams of Sawston broke the world record and the skyline at Whittlesey will never be quite the same again. He didn't actually press the button that reduced ten chimneys to a field of rubble – that was left to Lesley Judd of BBC tv's "Blue Peter. But it was his job to make sure they fell and fell in the right place. The chimneys, ranging from 90 to 230 foot, dated from the turn of the century and belonged to the London Brick Company; they will be replaced by only five.

1977 09 30

An Army bomb disposal squad detonated a First World War bomb in the grounds of Sawston Hall – after the live bomb had been sitting in the hall's dining room for years. The 10-inch mortar was brought back as a souvenir of the war. The owner said he was going to give it to Duxford Aviation Museum but was advised to check whether it was live before donation. He doubted it was filled with explosive. It probably only had the detonator in, and would have needed a very hard knock to set it off.

1978 01 07 c

An overnight storm left more than 10,000 consumers without power; the Eastern Electricity area manager said: "I've called everyone off all duties except restoring supplies and have 300 men on the job. I had to call my men off at midnight because the conditions were so bad with trees crashing down all over the place". Road clearance operations were hampered by heavy rain, which washed away the salt and grit laid on frozen roads earlier. In Cambridge the wind speed was enough to blow out the gable end of a three-storey house at Mitcham's Corner and a bus was blown off the Sawston road by high gusting winds.

1978 03 10

Planners have given the go-ahead to Sawston Parish Council to use part of the village car park as a weekend skateboard track. But South Cambs District Council decided to absolve themselves from risk of injury claims and leave the question of any insurance up to the parish council. They plan to rope off the area on Saturday afternoons and Sundays to solve the problem of youngsters skateboarding on pavements.

1978 04 13

The closely-guarded secret about the future of a Tudor cottage at Sawston is out – it is being advertised for sale by auction. The sale description includes: “Large gardens with the benefit of potential for residential building plot”. The Parish Council has protested against any plan to sell the house, which was left by John Ward in the 16th century to be held for the benefit of the parish church. The trustees of Ward’s House in Church Lane have been meeting in private to decide what to do about the property, which is standing empty.

1978 05 02

Nearly 400 Protestants and Roman Catholics joined together at Haslingfield to revive a pilgrimage thought to be more than 500 years old. Led by the vicar and the Sawston Roman Catholic priest the pilgrimage wound their way up Chapel Hill to the site of a medieval shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Whitehill. In the Middle Ages it was used by pilgrims en route to Walsingham and brought much trade to the village, “enriching the priest and benefiting the inhabitants”. It disappeared without trace about 1541. The modern pilgrims continued to Harlton parish church, pausing at intervals for hymn singing and Bible readings

1978 11 01

A few pounds of gelignite put paid to the 120-foot chimney of the old riverside hosiery mill at Huntingdon. It was blasted to rubble by explosives expert George Williams who divides his time between running the University Arms pub at Sawston and destroying chimneys. He had demolished more than 100 and claims a world record for bringing down 10 brickworks chimneys simultaneously near Peterborough. The Huntingdon mill is being renovated by a London-based international company for use as a hotel or leisure centre.

1978 12 15

The East Anglian Railway Development Society urges the restoration of passenger trains on the Cambridge to St Ives line. Large domestic and industrial developments have taken place along the route and the new housing on the Arbury Road Estate would make for increased usage at Histon and even warrant a new halt in the Kings Hedges area. A Parkway station should be built to serve the Sawston area and Meldreth become the boarding point for Kings Cross trains.

1979 04 30

The 1,800 villagers of Duxford have lost their tiny branch surgery, despite a petition calling for its retention. Now they have to go to Sawston. Doctors say that the old days when the doctor was a comforter and father figure handing out bottles of red medicine have passed and the higher standards of modern medicine depend on tests and examinations which cannot be carried out at a branch surgery. Other surgeries have closed recently in Barton and Barrington while a question mark hangs over those at Great Chesterford and Elmdon. At Soham Health Centre there are minibuses to bring patients in from neighbouring villages and this might be arranged for Duxford.

1979 05 01

The garage, television and radio business run at Sawston by a former Battle of Britain pilot, Frank Vindis, is a high-flying concern. He first opened his small garage nearly 20 years ago and became an agent for Volkswagen and Audi cars, selling 400 new vehicles last year. The radio and television side of the business is booming as well. But space for further developments around his High Street

premises is running out and he may reluctantly have to start looking in other villages to cope with the rapid expansion of trade.

1979 11 06

The temperature in some classrooms at the John Falkner primary school Sawston reaches the mid-70s at times. This is one of the reasons why the headmistress refuses to allow children to wear long trousers in the classroom. A dispute has flared up after one four-year-old boy was told to wear short trousers or go home; his mother is refusing to send him back unless he can wear long trousers. But the school says it is easier for small boys with short trousers to cope with the urinals. There is always bound to be some dampness on the floor and trouser legs may get wet and smelly.

1979 11 23

The Duke of Edinburgh was cheered by more than 1,000 pupils when visited Sawston Village College to mark its 50th anniversary. But there to meet him were also some of the very first pupils of Britain's first village college which opened on 30th October 1930. They were Ron Brown who was number three on the register and is now a printing supervisor, Douglas Page now Marshall's chief pilot and Mrs Josephine Ling who has never really left and is now the school secretary. What started as a school with just 200 pupils now has 1,300 and is also attended by around 2,000 adults a week for evening classes, clubs and societies

1979 11 30

Sawston council tenants are living in rusty steel houses – the result of a bulk buy 10 years ago by South Cambridgeshire District Council. The houses were built by Spicer's in the 1930s and bought by the council in the 1960s as a temporary accommodation. They are made of steel frames with steel plate infill panels riveted on but now many of the rivets have dropped out. In some places the steel plate has rusted so much that a fist can be put right through and tenants complain that they can hear everything going on the neighbouring houses. The only solution is to remove the houses completely or use them as 'sin bins' – interior homes for bad tenants

1980 02 19

A butcher's run by the Griggs family for three generations is closing because of new more stringent health regulations, though there have been no complaints about hygiene standards. Ickleton, which one had a wide range of shops, will be reduced to a grocer's and a post office & the 500 villagers will have to travel to Sawston or Saffron Walden. The problem arises because the Council wanted an extension for lavatories and hand basins for the two men working in the shop who currently use the facilities in the owner's home. But the shop is not making enough profit to pay for it. 80 02 19

1981 05 26

Simplex, one of the world's leading makers of farm machinery, is to close its Sawston factory. It was started in 1936 by two cousins, the Bond-Smiths, marketing milking machinery from a building in Gwydir Street. In 1957 it became a subsidiary of GEC, the giant electrical firm, which has now agreed in principle to sell Simplex to Acrow, the engineering firm with a base in Saffron Walden. The firm says the deal makes industrial logic, given the state of the economy, and is designed to preserve the maximum number of jobs. The manufacturing plant will be transferred to Maldon and the Sawston works sold off. 81 05 26

1982 02 13

Baldry's soft drinks firm has shut down. It was founded by Jack Baldry in 1928 in the face of stiff competition from 32 other soft drinks firms in Cambridge. They moved to Sawston from premises in Harvest Way in 1979 because it needed more storage space. Two firms are interested in buying the assets and maintaining the Baldry name. 82 02 13

1982 05 27

It is the ending of an historic era as the belongings of the Huddleston family are auctioned off at the family seat, Sawston Hall. Treasures include a bed in which Mary Tudor is said to have slept. It was

death duties imposed on the estate in 1970 which finally led to them abandoning the 16th-century hall, which has been their home for 15 generations. It is destined to become a language centre. 82 05 27a & b

1983 08 27

Furious council house tenants in New Road Sawston have hit back at villagers who have dubbed their temporary homes 'sin bins' and are threatening to withhold their rates. Irate tenants say the homes are not being used to punish people who have not paid their rents, just temporary accommodation for homeless families. They reject complaints of noise, careless parking and their animals fouling nearby gardens. But they do agree the rusting steel-clad homes are an eyesore and want SCDC to improve them. 83 08 27 p8

1984 01 19

John Orton, Britain's oldest man, celebrated his 108th birthday on January 19th but died following a fall. He was born in 1876 and was the longest-married man in Britain until his wife, Harriet, died aged 103. Cambridgeshire is a good place to live: other elderly residents have included Mrs Alice Empleton who died at Sawston aged 110 when she was the second oldest person in Britain, Mrs Clara Blunt was born in Willingham 106 years ago and a Witchford woman, Etheldreda Thompson died just short of her 107th birthday. 84 01 19 p16 & 84 01 31 p10

1984 08 15

Visit many villages mid-morning and a still silence hangs over an empty street. But Sawston is lively, selling everything from computers to floral arrangements. Within the last few months new businesses have included an expanding DIY retailer next to the Chinese takeaway, and an opticians. There are two bakers, three greengrocers, a beauty specialist and an old-established store selling every from fishing tackle to baby ware. There are also eight pubs – once there were 13 one of which now houses a travel agency. 84 08 15

1984 11 09

William Sindall, the construction group founded in 1881, has moved from Cherry Hinton Road to new premises at Sawston. In 1936 Harold Ridgeon and his brother Frank merged it with their housing activities based in Gloucester Street. They expanded into airfield construction during WWII and went public in 1965. 84 11 09 p34

1984 12 28

FHS Engineering, the Sawston firm which began over 12 years ago in a rented wooden shed in Brookfield Road, has moved into new factory premises on Braham Road Industrial Estate. They now employ 14 people making equipment used by a wide variety of operators from chemical firms to instrument companies. Their customers include Cecil Instruments, Cambridge Research Biochemicals and various divisions of Pye. They called themselves FHS after the places where the partners lived at the time, Fulbourn, Haverhill and Sawston. 84 12 28b & c

1985 08 17

Sawston villagers are mourning the passing of their ancient right to pick two acres of parish peas. In 1554 John Huntingdon willed that the 'town peas' should be sown for the poor of the village and that if the tradition was broken the land would revert to the church wardens. But now everybody in the village – not just the poor – picks them. This year they have not been sown 85 08 17

1985 08 20

The village of Sawston has a faded charm. It seems to occupy a little world of its own and since inhabitants became cut off from through traffic with the building of a bypass it has withdrawn into itself. Now visitors and villagers have the luxury of shopping in a street almost devoid of parked cars. It is pleasant to saunter along, dallying to look at the astonishing variety of shops selling everything from a chop to a chain saw. The architecture runs from medieval to the old-people's home on the London Road, a shining white herald of the 20th-century, 85 08 20

1986 02 07

Dozens of Sawston families were evacuated after a 24lb cache of explosives was discovered in a home. Most were put up for the night by other residents but 30 were taken to the Village College where camp beds were brought in and staff dished out tea and coffee. The industrial gelignite, some of it in poor condition, was thought to belong to an explosives expert who established a world record for demolishing 10 chimneys at Whittlesey. It was detonated in an open field by bomb disposal experts
86 02 07

1986 11 13

Sawston is one of the busiest retained fire stations in Cambridgeshire. It answers more than 10 calls a week since it is close to three major roads and they are called out to provide cover for Cambridge. It has a full complement of 14 firemen under sub-officer Gilbert Whiffin and while some areas struggle to find recruits, they have a waiting list. The men have recently taken up weight training and also have the energy to raise many thousands of pounds for charity, donating £800 towards the village health centre. 86 11 13

1986 12 11

David Reed Homes have gained a reputation for exclusive developments. Five-bedroom residences at their flagship house building scheme at Friends Walk Saffron Walden have sold for £160,000. They have constructed developments at Sawston, Park Lane Histon, Waterbeach and Grange Road Cambridge 86 12 11a

1988 12 12

Hutchings and Harding tannery, one of the world's largest producers of chamois leather, has opened Skivers Tannery Shop at its historic premises in Sawston High Street specialising in leather jackets, sheepskin and goatskin rugs. The family-owned business, founded some 350 years ago, is housed in buildings erected in the early 1800s where it employs 70 people, exporting 80 per cent of its products worldwide. Its leather jackets cost £80 and men's sheepskin jackets £180. 88 12 12c

1989 01 27

Jennings Transport of Sawston moved to new haulage depot – 89 01 27b

1989 06 15

Sawston twins with Selsingen, Germany – 89 06 15

1990 06 13

Eastern Counties Leather of Sawston – feature – 90 06 13a, b

1990 09 06

Airglow light aircraft built at Sawston – 90 09 06b